

and I urge my colleagues to support it. I have also signed a resolution asking our Republican leaders to let a clean debt ceiling bill come to the floor.

We must pass a clean debt ceiling bill to send a message to the world that we will keep our word and pay our bills. Do not default on America.

AMERICA'S LUMBER MARKET IS DYING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in very simple language, America's lumber market is getting killed. I think we understand that word. Canadian lumber is everywhere.

Now, check this out: Canadian provinces own the timber, so they sell the timber to the Canadian mills below market cost. Then the Canadian mills sell the timber in America below market value. As a result, Canada now owns 40 percent of America's lumber market.

America has lost 35,000 jobs and experts say, listen to this, America will continue to lose jobs in this industry. No kidding, Sherlock.

With a policy like this, how can American timber mills end up competing with Canadian timber that is subsidized and being sold in America, dumped in America? Beam me up. This is another fine NAFTA ploy.

BETRAYAL IN GEORGIA

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a betrayal of Benedict Arnold proportions.

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution reported today that the Democratic leadership in the State of Georgia—that is, the vanguard of the Dixiecrats—is actively recruiting people of the right skin color to challenge our colleague and two-term Democratic Member of Congress, SANFORD BISHOP.

I want to say that again. The leadership of our party in the State of Georgia is recruiting white primary opponents to unseat a sitting Member of Congress of the same party. And why? Only because SANFORD BISHOP is black.

Georgia Democratic House Speaker Tom Murphy is reported to have said that he would support the candidacy of Ray Goff who happens to be white. In fact, Murphy is willing to support Goff against Bishop even though Goff has not declared whether he is a Democrat or Republican.

How's that for party loyalty, Mr. Speaker? Once again Tom Murphy and his fellow dinosaurs have demonstrated that black Democrats are no more than spare parts for their whites-only party machine.

LET LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS DO THEIR JOB

(Mr. LAZIO of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, last week in New York, a Federal judge threw out key evidence that would prove a defendant guilty of Federal drug charges. The defendant had over 4 million dollars' worth of cocaine and heroine in her car, and voluntarily confessed on videotape that she had made the trip over 20 times to pick up drugs. The arresting officers witnessed four men putting duffle bags into the trunk of her car at 5 a.m. in the morning. They did not speak to her, and then fled the scene when spotted. Unbelievably however, the judge decided that the police had no cause to be suspicious. Even the New York Times called the judge's reasoning, tortured.

It is absolutely incredible that this case was dismissed, and the defendant will go unpunished due to a technicality, which would be corrected if the Exclusionary Rule Reform Act was in effect. Last February the House passed this bill, which extends the exclusionary rule's good faith exception to warrantless searches. If the police have a reasonable good faith belief that a drug crime is occurring, as in this case, common sense should dictate that they be allowed to act accordingly.

As a former Suffolk County assistant district attorney, I have seen firsthand the effects of drugs on our communities. It is about time we let our law enforcement officials do their job without tying their hands. We need this bill to become law so we can avoid such outrageous situations in the future.

MAJORITY PURSUING CONTRADICTORY STRATEGY

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the majority is pursuing a contradictory strategy. Everything they have hinged on eliminating the deficit, but an increase in the deficit would be the first result of default. The official position of the United States of America today is under threat of default. Moody's has certainly recorded it that way, because it has returned the threat itself.

The shutdown strategy will not work this time. The only way to hang something on the debt limit bill is to get an agreement in advance from the President, yet I see no meetings occurring.

Moody's action shows that the delay alone can be costly, and worse, dangerous. If we mean to balance the budget, if your purpose is to eliminate the deficit, let us start by taking away the threat of default.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2745

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2745.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 652, TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 353 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 353

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 652) to provide for a pro-competitive, de-regulatory national policy framework designed to accelerate rapidly private sector deployment of advanced telecommunications and information technologies and services to all Americans by opening all telecommunications markets to competition, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSEN], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 353 provides for the consideration of the conference report for S. 652, the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The House rules allow for 1 hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Commerce and Judiciary Committees.

In addition, the regular rules of the House provide for a motion to recommend with or without instructions as is the right of the minority.

Mr. Speaker, what we have before us is a complex piece of legislation that is the product of many long months of negotiation. I believe that the conferees have worked in good faith to create a balanced bill which equalizes the diverse competitive forces in the telecommunications industry.

This entire process has involved countless competing interests which include consumers long distance companies, regional Bell operating companies, cable, newspapers, broadcasters,